

PACIFIC  
Commercial Advertiser.

The Gold Excitement in Boston.

The sudden fluctuations in the price of gold created an immense excitement in this city among all classes of the community. The price of gold has been talked of so much in the newspapers, and so freely quoted by every petty shopkeeper, as to have become familiar to even the purchaser of a pound of butter or a tallow candle. Much of the enormous hoarding that has been practised, is clearly traceable to the alarm thus created among ignorant people. Those who have doubtless seen the enormous hoards of gold in the Exchange and Money Broker's offices, in this city, on Thursday, for months past, the "price of gold" has been an excuse for every dealer in even the commonest articles of domestic production, the value of which had been slightly enhanced, to put on thirty to forty per cent. advance.

Ask the price of a common piece of earthenware made here in New England, "forty-two cents."

"But I never paid but twenty-five."

"Yes, madam, but gold is up you know," drives English goods out of the market, "folks have to use these now."

And yet the day banks are inexhaustible, the machinery simple, and labor plenty. Prices a candle, or a slice of cheese, or a half of a cow turn out a French dinner set, a string of red herrings or a Cashmere shawl, and you meet the same argument, "the high price of gold."

It is not to be wondered at, then, that the masses, taught thus to look at the speculations in the precious metal with interest, hold on for a big premium, and rush madly to the exchange office at the first indication of a rise.

We received a dispatch from our special New York correspondent at about 11 on Thursday, and accordingly stopped down to State street at 12, to "see how things looked."

Even at that hour, everybody that had saved ten dollars in gold seemed to be visiting State street to sell it.

How the news became so quickly and so generally circulated was marvellous for the brokers' offices were thronged, and the scenes, dialogues and transactions were most amusing. Laborers, Irish servant girls, sharp operators, clerks, small tradesmen, in fact, all sorts of people besieged the buyers and sellers of money with all sorts of questions, and ended in selling out their hoards in all sorts of amounts.

The well-known Banking and Exchange office of J. W. Davis & Co. was the theatre of quite a number of amusing scenes. Mr. Davis does an extensive business in buying and selling money, and as he is always ready to buy or sell at some price or other, his office was a sort of headquarters for this business.

A charcoal man, whose entire sale, notwithstanding the high price of rugs, would have been dear at five dollars, offers to sell his rug for "one hundred and sixty-five."

"What do you give for gold?"

"One hundred and sixty-five."

"Ah! he-gorra, I'll not sell for that anyhow." (Exit.)

(Re-enters, after fifteen minutes absence, during which time he had visited several other establishments.)

"Shure I'll take sixty-five for that gold."

(Astonishment of the "seller of whom Davis' clerks are buying at sixty-two.")

"Can't take it now, sir, at over sixty—just had telegraph dispatch from New York."

(Chuck of the seller over the saving of two per cent—indignation of vendor of charcoal.)

"Ah! had luck to it, I'll go back to Mister Clapp for the sixty wahn he offered me."

(Exit.)

After the lapse of a few moments enter charcoal dealer once more, with a flush of anxiety showing through the coating of coal dust on his visage.

"Arrah! yee's may take the gold av me for a hundred and sixty, if yee like no more."

"Can't give that now, sir; take it at a hundred and fifty-five."

"Divil a bit (enraged), shure didn't ye offer me a hundred and fifty five minutes ago?"

"Yes, but you refused, and the price has fallen since."

Pat in despair draws forth an old mitten from some hidden recess in his garments, and takes out ten twenty dollar pieces, and receives his roll of greenbacks, but hangs about the place as loth to depart; he hears sellers, sales made, sees money, ships of paper, notes and memorandums pass back and forth over the broker's counter for ten or a dozen minutes, while a stream of people are going and coming; finally he beckons the broker to him, and in confidential whisper says,

"Couldn't ye be after makin' the price ye gave me fifty-six?"

as there was a hale in first hands in New Orleans. Mr. Barrett, the bearer of credits and orders, was told to spare no expense in order to beat the mail. It was now eleven o'clock Christmas eve. No one had thought about money for the expense of the messenger to New Orleans. Banks were all short—brokers too. Mr. Prime seized a blank check and went up with it to the City Hotel.

"Willard, for what amount can you cash my check to-night?"

"How much do you wish, Mr. Prime?"

"One thousand dollars."

Mr. Willard had the money and gave it to Mr. Prime. It was in the pocket of Mr. Walter Barrett the next morning, when he embarked at six o'clock in the boat for Amboy, commanded then by the since famous captain Alexander Schultz.

The messenger by hissing stage-drivers, paying Mississippi boat captains \$50 or \$75, not to stop and receive freight, reached New Orleans in eleven days. It was daylight when he got into the old City Hotel, in New Orleans, kept then by Mr. Bishop. Two hours after John Hagan and Thomas Barrett had the letters of credit and orders to purchase cotton. The southern mail did not arrive for three days. Before night over 50,000 bales of cotton had been purchased, at 11 and 12 cents, or about \$60 per bale. The cotton was sold at 17 and 18 cents, when cotton went up a few days after. Some was sent to Liverpool. The profit was on some lots over \$30 a bale, and was divided up among the New Orleans houses of Barrett & Co. and John Hagan & Co. and the New York operators. The messenger had the profits of two hundred bales awarded him and his expenses paid.

Ships Against Forts.

While agitating the subject of national defenses, let us not be blind to the strong and solid foundation for our iron navy as to believe it a panacea for every evil. We shall fall into a fatal error when we trust to ships, gunboats, or floating batteries alone, for the defense of our harbors or seacoast. All writers on military art agree on one point, that a land battery is in every way superior to one that floats. While the latter has to contend with an uncontrollable element, affecting the use of its guns, the precision of their aim and the safety of its men from numberless causes, the first can fire from a firm foundation with a certainty of aim, and with a protection to its men that cannot be rated at less than ten to one. We will pass by the wooden ships in our calculation, and enter only upon those of iron, and yet not fail to see that vulnerable points are presented upon everything that floats, no matter how carefully constructed, that utterly outnumber the weak points of the weakest of our old stone fortifications.

The growing belief in Monitors and gunboats for harbor defense may be somewhat abated, if we look a little into the history of the last half century, and examine the records where ships have been brought to bear against land batteries.

In 1794 the Forts Mifflin and Mifflin, in Chesapeake Bay, were attacked by the British, and the latter was defended by one gun in barbette and a garrison of thirty men. After a fight of two and a half hours the ships were obliged to retire disabled. The tower was unharmed, and its garrison without injury.

In 1797 Nelson, with eight vessels and 400 guns, attacked the wretched batteries of Santa Cruz, in Teneriffe, and was defeated with terrible loss, a single ball instantly sinking one of his ships and carrying down a hundred men.

In 1799 the French attacked an English work on the Island of Marcon, with a force of 52 sail and 7,000 men. The garrison consisted of 250 men, defended by ten pieces, ranging from four to thirty-two pounds. The French were defeated with great loss, while the garrison had only one man killed and three wounded.

In 1801 an English fleet, carrying 502 guns, attacked the Spanish and French defenses of Algiers. Though the English had seventeen guns to every one of their opponents, yet they were defeated with immense slaughter.

In 1803 the English garrison at Port Royal Bay, with 100 men and 15 guns, beat off a French attack of two hundred and fifty men, and a brig, assisted by a land force of two hundred men.

In 1806, the English, with 150 guns and 1,300 men, attacked a French battery on Cape Licosa of two guns, and garrisoned by 25 men. The loss of the English was thirty-seven men and one 80-gun ship, while the fort and battery were entirely unharmed.

In 1814, when the English advanced against Antwerp, they established a small battery of two guns at the Polder Dyke. A French 80-gun ship, attempting to dislodge them, anchored within 600 yards. The result was that after a combat of five hours the ship withdrew disabled, with a loss of 41 men, among whom was her commander.

To come nearer home with like instances we will cite the attack of Sir P. Parker upon Fort Mifflin, Charleston, in 1776, with a fleet of nine vessels, carrying 270 guns. Mifflin was armed with 26 guns and garrisoned by about 450 regulars and militia. The result was the total defeat of the British, with a loss of 205 men, while the fort lost but 32.

In 1814, a British fleet of four vessels, 92 guns, and a land force of 750 men, supported by a battery of two guns, attacked Fort Mifflin, at the entrance to the Bay of Mobile. The garrison consisted of 120 men, with 20 short cannonades. The enemy were repulsed with a loss of 85 men and one of their largest ships.

In 1814, a battery of one 4-pounder and one 18-pounder repulsed a British fleet of 134 guns, with a loss of 70 men, while the garrison lost only eight.

The attack on Baltimore in 1814 was conducted by 40 vessels, carrying 6,000 men, but was obliged to retire from Fort Mifflin with great loss, after a bombardment of 25 hours.

In 1815, a British fleet ascended the Mississippi to reduce Fort St. Philip, a small work of twenty guns, but was obliged to retire with heavy loss after nine days' fighting.

In the war of 1812 the most notable instance of the reduction of a fort, which was that of Fort Washington by the fleet that ascended the Potomac to burn Washington city. This work was deserted by its garrison on the first British fire, and the commander was immediately dismissed the service for his cowardice.

The only victories that have ever been claimed for ships over forts are those of Copenhagen in 1801, Constantine in 1807, Algiers in 1816, San Juan d'Ulloa in 1838, and St. Jean d'Acre in 1840; each of which, if examined in detail, will prove to be no victories. The first was an action against ships, the second a disgraceful retreat, the third was ended by negotiation at the moment the attacking party was exhausted and afraid to renew the contest, the fourth a surrender in consequence of the explosion of the magazine and the consequent terror of the garrison and the loss of nineteen of their most effective guns. The fifth, that of St. Jean d'Acre, was decided from the same cause, more terribly expressed, the magazine having exploded with 6,000 casks of powder, destroying a space of 60,000 yards, and killing over a thousand of the garrison.

Having cited these instances to show that in the experience of the past stone walls have never given way to wooden walls, we can still give a broad margin to the advance of artillery, and admit that Parrot guns and Columbiads may do what long 32-pounders cannot, and yet have a balance in favor of the land battery armed the same as that which floats. The finished and projected works of New York Harbor are intended for 1,000 guns. If this number be of the right metal and properly served, no fleet which the world combined can produce, can withstand it long enough to do the city any serious damage. The idea of landing an attacking force anywhere upon our shores, is simply an absurdity; any harm that can be offered us by a hostile nation must be by destroying our shipping at sea, or by an attack upon our cities. In defending the first, our new-made iron navy will have work enough;

for repelling the last, the fortifications of all our cities are thoroughly efficient if they have but the proper armament. It is to this end we must look for harbor defenses—not to iron ships, gunboats, or floating batteries.—New York Times.

Southern Account of Operations at Vicksburg.

(From the latest Richmond papers.)

The Red River Communication Blocked.

Vicksburg, February 5, 1863.

The worst that has befallen this place, and perhaps the entire confederacy, since the arrival of the Yankee army on the peninsula across the river, is the interference with our communication with Red River. From that stream we had heretofore access to vast amounts of supplies, and a great portion of the Confederate army was supplied from this source. So did also the people have the opportunity of supplying themselves with that most indispensable article, salt, and with sugar and molasses. Since communication is interrupted the latter article has risen to \$60 per barrel. By the time merchants can pay exorbitant freights, and expenses of going after and watching it included, it will cost a nice little pile to sweeten up with molasses.

When the enemy first approached this city an immense amount of freight had accumulated here for the want of means of transportation. Both by the delay of the enemy and through the indomitable energy of the shippers, most of it is now got away, and now Vicksburg is left, but very little of private property could be got.

Although the enemy has been apparently spending his time in idleness for the past three or four days, the report now runs that he is laying the most enormous plans, by which he intends to reduce this city in a jiffy. The force at his command being estimated at one hundred thousand men, besides the fleet of gunboats, a division is to be made, so that a flank movement from two directions will concentrate the army in the rear of the place, while the fleet carries on the attack in front. Of course an army of a hundred thousand strong can do some great things; and there are other things which it can't do, and one of them is the taking of Vicksburg.

From accounts, it seems that Gen. Sherman is greatly perplexed as to which is the best plan for the attack, and he has arrested several citizens from Mississippi and Louisiana, and put them through a cross-examination as to the weakest point in the defenses around Vicksburg could be found. So far his generalship has been seeking knowledge under difficulties in vain, and he is as yet in entire ignorance upon the subject which perplexes his mind so much, and it is only in the school of experience that he will be able to learn this lesson.

The fleet is still increasing, and in the morning at the rising of the sun, a spectacle meets the eye which reminds one of some great shipping mart, where the vessels from all countries in the world are lying lazily at anchor. Among the gunboats there is a continual commotion, and they keep changing positions a number of times during the day.

There is a mail steamer among the fleet which is used as a messenger boat to carry communications from one to another, and she is all the time engaged upon this duty. There is no doubt but that this craft is also used as a spyboat to reconnoitre as far down as is safe for her venture.

Since the passage of the river a few days since, a great change has been made in the arrangement of our batteries, and another attempt of the sort will, no doubt, meet with more disastrous results than did the first one. It was one of those occurrences which are sometimes necessary to wake up the sleeping energy and watchfulness of our men, without which a carelessness might have crept into our lines that would have carried greater consequences with it.

There is every indication to believe that our generals expect an attack in a very few days, and again the non-combatants are ordered out of the city. If any other movement was noticed, this of itself would be convincing evidence that an attack by the enemy must be very near at hand. The mortar-battery which is now above the city, makes the place untenable for non-combatants, and the sooner they are removed the better. It is not likely that the movement will give us any notice of the time fixed upon for the assault, and the absence of non-combatants will prevent that panic and confusion which might otherwise ensue.

Be Patient with the Little Ones.

Be patient with the little ones. Let neither their slow understanding nor their occasional nervousness offend you to provoke the sharp reproof. Remember the world is new to them; they have no sight task, to grasp with their untried intellect the mass of facts and truths that crowd upon their attention. You are grown to maturity and strength, through years of experience; and it becomes you to treat at a child who fails to keep pace with your thought. Teach him patiently as God teaches you, "line upon line, precept upon precept, here a little and there a little." Cheer him on in his conflict of mind; in after years his ripe, rich thought shall rise and call you blessed.

Bide patiently the endless questionings of your children. Do not roughly crush the rising spirit of free inquiry with an impatient word or frown, nor attempt, on the contrary, a long instructive reply to every casual question. Seek rather to deepen their curiosity, and if possible, the careless question into a profound and earnest inquiry. Let your reply send the little questioner forth, not so much proud of what he has learned, as anxious to know more. Happy, then, if, in giving your child the molecule of truth he asks for, you can whet his curiosity with a glimpse of the mountain of truth lying beyond; so will you send forth a philosopher, and not a silly pedant in the end.

Bear patiently the childish humors of those little ones. They are but the untutored pleadings of the young spirit for care and cultivation. Irritated into strength, and hardened into habits, they will haunt the world of life like fends of despair, and make the little ones curse the day they were born; but corrected kindly and patiently, they become elements of happiness and usefulness. Fustions are but fire, that may either sear us with their uncontrolled fury, or may yield us a genial and needful warmth.

Bless your little ones with a patient care for their childhood, and they will certainly consecrate the glory and grace of their manhood to your service. Sow in their hearts the seeds of a perennial blessedness; its ripened fruit will afford you a perpetual joy.—Mich. Jour. of Education.

LAW OFFICE!

THE UNDERSIGNED HAS REMOVED his Office over Capt. Snow's Store, and is ready and desirous to attend to all kinds of Law Business in ALL OF THE

Having made arrangements to have a good Interpreter in attendance, he will draw all kinds of legal papers in Hawaiian, as well as English, and being a Notary Public, make the necessary certificates so that they may be received.

362-4m ASHLEY B. BATES.

SUGAR & MOLASSES, FIRST CROP!

FROM THE LAHAINA PLANTATION.

For sale in quantities to suit, by H. HACKFELD & Co.

363-3m

Sugar and Molasses!

OF SUPERIOR QUALITY.

FROM THE KOLOA PLANTATION!

CROP 1863!

now coming in and for sale in quantities to suit, by H. HACKFELD & Co.

363-3m

Dahomian Atrocities.

The commander of Her Majesty's ship Griffin, at Little Popo, on the coast of Guinea, has forwarded to the governor of Lagos a horrible narrative, which he took from the mouth of a trustworthy witness, of certain sanguinary ceremonies in which the King of Dahomey celebrated his accession to the throne. Mr. Eusehart, a Dutch merchant, having gone on a business errand to Whydah, a port on the coast which is a notorious resort for the slave-traders, was, in June last, compelled to pay a visit to the King of Dahomey, some eighty or ninety miles up the country. On the 30th of June, escorted by six musketeers, after a message from the King, Mr. Eusehart entered a walled part of the town of Abomey, which is a chief town in the interior; and here he was received by two head "caboceros," who saluted him, saying, "King had never seen a Dutchman; King's father had never seen a Dutchman; and now they had plenty of people to kill they were very glad to see a Dutchman."

We cannot undertake to interpret Mr. Eusehart's feelings at this peculiar greeting, but we can conceive that his prospects in his own mind were not of the pleasantest description. His captors next bade him drink the King's health four times, after which the caboceros danced, sang, and fired up guns close to his ears. On the next day the monarch received him, on a raised dais, surrounded by his body-guard of Amazons; the King and his prisoners shook hands, the King said, "he was very glad to see a Dutchman," and conversed with him in Portuguese the best part of a quarter of an hour.

Then his guards moved Mr. Eusehart to his house, where he was imprisoned three days. On the following morning he was taken to the market place, where there had been a wholesale slaughter of the people on the previous evening, and where, ranged before him, he saw the sickening sight of a row of human heads, each head and gory, stricken from some unfortunate Ishagga prisoners who had been frightfully tortured before decapitation. Here also a grotesque horror was presented to him in the crucified body of a Sierra Leone missionary, named Doherty, affixed to a large tree, with a nail through the forehead, one through the heart, and one through each hand and foot; the left arm being bent and grasping in its hand a large cotton cloth. In the market, where he was next brought, Mr. Eusehart found the King, seated on a raised platform, talking much "war palaver" to a wild noisy multitude, and promising them an attack on Abbeokuta, the capital of the adjacent fertile country, on which doubtless the Dahomians have looked with longing eyes. Presents of cowries, the shells which pass for money, cloth and rum were handed round. Aguid Mr. Eusehart was removed to his house, and ordered not to stir or look out after sundown. Five days elapsed before he had another interview with the King. During the violent shocks of an earthquake he was taken into the presence of this strange savage potentate, who declared that his father's spirit had shaken the ground in anger at the neglect of the becoming rites or customs which should attend a Royal decease. Three captive chiefs were hidden by the King to assure the uneasy spirit that "our customs should be better than ever;" and to each of these miserable creatures was allotted a bottle of rum, a head of cowries (2s.), and the fate of decapitation. Then followed more massacres. Twenty-four victims were brought out bound in baskets; their heads just appearing, who were thrown down from the King's platform into the midst of the people, and beheaded amidst frantic cries, songs, gesticulations, and savage dances. The heads were piled in one heap and the bodies in another; "every man who caught a victim and cut off the head received one head of cowries [2s.]."

The "grand customs," ten days afterwards, which were the climax of these atrocities, were solemnized at the King's palace by a sacrifice of 16 men and four horses placed on the platform, whilst another was occupied by 16 women, four horses, and an alligator. They were captives from Sierra Leone, dressed in the European fashion, and each group were bound in chains, placed round a table, with glasses of rum before them. Then the wretched monster who played the chief part in these murderous mummeries "ascended the platform, where he adorned the Dahomian Fetish," bowed to his agonized captives, whose right hands were loosed that their owners might pledge the King's health. After a review of the troops, including 10,000 Amazons, all well-disciplined troops to the eye, the effects of the late King were prepared and worshipped, and the prisoners were beheaded, care being taken that the blood of the human and the animal victims mingled. Then the unhappy spectator, Mr. Eusehart, was dismissed, and traveled away from this Accedema as quickly as he could. We have recapitulated these monstrous sins against our common humanity that our readers may see we do not urge the teaching a stern lesson to these savages on light or trivial grounds. It is enough, we think, to awaken swift retribution, that any European should in these days, when time and distance have been bridged over by the steam engine, send us home such a string of meaningless superstitious slaughters from a country only three or four days march from the coast where the European flag proclaims that a Christian regard of life is observed. These wretches have introduced the sterner arts of civilization; bills and artillery are distributed amongst their soldiers; it is too much to ask that they be taught a respect for the lives and safety of those around them, especially when they seek to force the white man to share their wanton orgies amidst a very sea of human blood?

DUFFIN'S MARKET!

TO FAMILIES, HOUSE-KEEPERS, AND OTHERS.

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, would call the attention of Families, House-keepers and others to the fact that we are now killing some of the

Best Cattle the Islands Afford!

And will endeavor, by strict attention to the orders of our customers, to give perfect satisfaction. We would invite the public to give us a call, and satisfy themselves that our

Beef, Mutton and Pork!

are the Best the Market Affords.

DUFFIN & CO.

FRESH MOLOKAI BUTTER.

For sale by CASTLE & COOKE.

363-3m

FLOUR! FLOUR!! FLOUR!!!

SUPERIOR CALIFORNIA FLOUR!

FOR FAMILY USE!

EXPECTED PER 'Young Hector' and 'Comet,'

BY

CASTLE & COOKE.

363-4m

Now on hand, a large stock of

SHEET CARDS & CARDS!

Of all kinds and sizes, suitable for BUSINESS, WEDDING, VISITING And other purposes.

CALL AND EXAMINE SPECIMENS AND TERMS.

HENRY M. WHITNEY.

HONOLULU, 1863.

Lloyd's Map

OF THE SOUTHERN STATES, COLOR.

Price \$1.00. The war news cannot be perused intelligibly without a good Map at hand to refer to, and this is one of the most correct.

For sale by H. M. WHITNEY.

Advertisements.

MACFARLANE'S Commercial!

MR. JAMES LEMON BEGS to announce to his friends and the public, that this celebrated House of Resort has lately been thoroughly renovated and beautified, no expense having been spared to render it the most agreeable place in Honolulu for willing away a leisure half-hour.

THE READING SALOON

is the most spacious, airy, and charming room in town, sheltered from the sun by a broad veranda, commanding a magnificent view of the country, and well supplied with standard works and periodicals.

THE BARS

are furnished with refreshing beverages that cannot fail to please the most fastidious; and, as a whole, the advertiser flatters himself, that the establishment is unequalled in this, and unsurpassed in any other community.

366-2m

THE Commercial Advertiser

BOOK AND JOB PRINTING

ESTABLISHMENT.

Is acknowledged to possess

THE BEST ASSORTMENT

OF

JOB PRINTING TYPE

Of any other office

IN THE SANDWICH ISLANDS,

And is well adapted to the

SUPERIOR PRINTING!

OF

POSTERS!

OF ANY SIZE,

Either in

PLAIN

OR

FANCY

COLORS;

Business, Visiting and Wedding Cards

On a "YANKEE CARD PRESS."

BILL-HEADS,

Hotel Bills of Fare, Ball Tickets, Circulars, Envelopes, Law Blanks, Receipts,

On a New Ruggles' Job Press.

BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, MINISTERIAL REPORTS, LEGISLATIVE REPORTS, LAWYERS' BRIEFS, CATALOGUES, PROGRAMMES, NEWSPAPERS, &c., &c., &c.,

On an Adams' Power Press, in the most unsurpassable style of the art.

BARELY LIVING PRICES!

Having long enjoyed the confidence and patronage of the public, in our business transactions, we take the opportunity to return our heart-felt thanks for past favors and respectfully ask a continuance of the same.

Now on hand, a large stock of

SHEET CARDS & CARDS!

Of all kinds and sizes, suitable for BUSINESS, WEDDING, VISITING And other purposes.

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For sale by H. M. WHITNEY.

Advertisements.

Sugar and Molasses!

From the Plantation of J. MAKEE,

EAST MAUI!

CROP OF 1863.

For sale by (351-6m) C. BREWER & CO.

1863.

SUGAR AND MOLASSES

FROM

Lihue Plantation!

FOR SALE IN QUANTITIES TO SUIT